

Virtual Scout Troop & Patrol Meetings





Meetings With A Purpose

Virtual Troop Meetings should have as many Scouts as possible attend. And of course they should be run by Scouts with an emphasis on Patrol achievements, instruction of skills and Scout recognition.

Virtual Patrol Meetings are much smaller and should focus on bonding, fun, and games. They should also Scouting values and promote growth for advancement.

Zoom Examples



Will send 7 page graphic directions on how to host Zoom meetings if requested

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Virtual Openings



Scouts should be in Field Uniform, just like physical meetings.

Both Troop & Patrol meetings should start as normal, with Pledge, Oath, Law, & Outdoor Code.

Virtual Troop Meetings

Troop Meetings must have an agenda. It may be appropriate to have a Scout adult make a few comments, but the meeting should be Scout run.

Patrol Leaders can “show off” their Patrols with brief reports of their actions and members.



Virtual Report Status



Many Troops have ASPs with specific functions. They can report on what they are doing. Troop Guides can be recognized for working with youth.

Upcoming camping and service projects should be promoted, as well as past activities.

There should always be a Scout skill and overview of a Merit Badge or some other advancement activity.

Virtual Troop Guides



Although breakout rooms can be used, they are somewhat difficult to manage in a 1.5 hour meeting.

The Troop Guide program may be better run if Troop Guides contact younger Scouts on a one-to-one basis (adults not required) during the week for instruction and approving requirements.



Virtual Advancement



There are no merit badge changes for virtual events, but rank advancement modifications can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/>

Recognition of Scouts is very important using on-line meetings to promote continued interest.

All meetings must name Scouts that have earned Merit Badges, ranks, and other awards.

The Advancement Chair can hold up the award to the computer camera and recognize them.

Virtual Scout Management

Senior Leaders (SPL, ASPLs, JASMs, etc.) should make sure all Scouts are involved each week. They should not email but telephone. It is important that they have a response from each Scout each week.

Scouts must feel that they are a part of a Troop and they are valued.



Sample Troop Meeting Agenda

SPL Welcome to all – *name*

Scoutmaster Comments

Status of Patrols – Zoom Meetings

Reports from Patrol Leaders

Tasks by Patrol, such as flag design, cheer, equipment locations

Members working on rank advancement & Merit Badges

Other _____

ASPL Troop Guide Report – *name*

New Scouts

Scouts under First Class

ASPL Service & Camping – *name*

Plans for virtual trips, Service Project

ASPL Program for Troop – *name*

Skill or Requirement Presentation, and/or Merit Badge Presentation

CyberChip Review – Scouts needing – *name*

Scouting Items of Interest – *name*

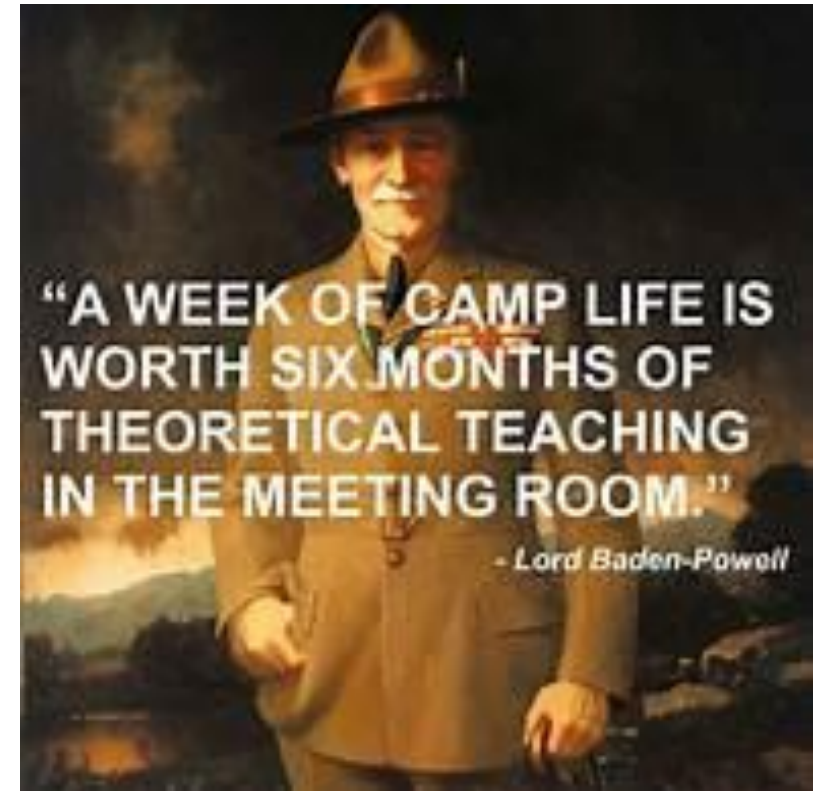
Advancements

Scoutmaster Minute

Next Meeting *day of the week* at 7:30 on Zoom

Virtual Patrol Meetings

Patrol Meetings should start with some type of action – something the group is doing or has done. It may be a service project, results of a camping trip, anything preferably “outside” the homes.



Virtual Patrol Members

Scouts should talk about their advancement plans and accomplishments and activities. Patrol Leaders should take note of any problems and relay them quickly in the PLC.

This is a good time to brainstorm what Scouts may want the Troop to be doing.



Virtual Patrol Activities

Patrols are small groups and ideal to have games – some about Scouting, and some just for fun.

Games easily played on-line include:

- Scout Skill Game
- Hangman
- Kahoots!
- Finish the Sentence
- Scavenger Hunt
- Charades
- Never Have I...
- Read My Lips



Use the Zoom whiteboard



Virtual Patrol Social Time

Scouts should have some down time to talk about anything they wish. It could be school, teachers, sports, anything that promotes bonding.

They can tell jokes, stories, any kind of open conversation. This helps provide social interaction for mental health that is missed with social distancing.



Note that adults may need to politely monitor this for content.



Sample Patrol Meeting Agenda

Opening

Service Project

Who is doing what and completions

Advancement

Status & accomplishments

Other Scout Items of interest

Scout Skill Game or other Scout activity

(Have 5 questions and answers for each rank in our Patrol: Scout, Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class -- this is great review for all Scoutmaster Conferences)

Social Time –

School, outside activities, jokes, open conversation

Closing



Engage